

# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, FOR THE BENEFIT OF FARMERS AND MECHANICS, AT QUINCY HALL, SOUTH MARKET STREET, WM. BUCKMINSTER, OF FRAMINGHAM, EDITOR.

VOL. 9.

PUBLISHED BY  
W. & W. J. BUCKMINSTER.

TERMS—\$200 in advance; if payment is unreasonably late, \$250 will be charged.  
Papers not discontinued without a personal or written notice from the subscriber or postmaster and arranges to do so.  
No paper sent for a term less than six months.  
All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor.  
Advertising on reasonable terms.

## AGRICULTURE.

### FARM WORK FOR APRIL.

In this latitude farmers expect to put their ploughs a-field by the first day of April. We do not always succeed, and we are obliged in some seasons to wait till the fifteenth.

*Dwelling-House, etc.*

*Public Auction, on Tuesday, at one o'clock, of premises, and there is a house, with a*

*dwelling-house, containing the same, situated on a plot of land in construction, and in good condition.*

*and Dwelling-House, with a*

*dwelling-houses, one modern, and others after-Warwick, Duxbury, and*

*containing three rooms, and in good re*

*servation, and in the Town of Benjamin Pratt of Col*

*on March 22, 1850.*

*or purchases, may be made to*

*MURKIN, the Auctioneer, at One*

*o'clock, on the day when the*

*sale is held.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

*but would respectfully*

*inform, in particular, and Best Estate*

*Office, from No. 5 Congress*

*Street, Boston, Mass., and*

*where he still continues*

*the same kind of business as*

*at the Office, where*

*the number of customers*

*and the price of buying the*

*same will receive prompt at*

*tention.*

*Office removed,*

## MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN.

William Buckminster, Editor.

SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 30, 1850.

### THIRTEENTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

Subject—"Draining."

Hon. Mr. Calhoun in the Chair.

The President stated that a Mr. Smith wished to show a patent. Beehive that was invented in the State of Ohio. Mr. Smith had a very handsome manayou hive. The peculiarity of his hive was a screen door that could be shut at evening when the bees are fluttering around. Several gentlemen looked at it, but not much was said.

The proper subject for the evening was named by the President—Dr. Jenks, however, wished to correct a misunderstanding that existed in regard to Agricultural Schools. He referred proceedings in the legislature, and to a speech made there by Mr. Payson of Rowley. He said Mr. Payson had referred to the meetings in this Hall, and he thought he had obtained incorrect information. He did not think any one had designed to mislead him, but he was confident Mr. Payson had been wronged. We have 100,000 farmers in Massachusetts. They have not been called ignorant farmers by speakers in this Hall though it seems that report goes abroad. He was sorry there should be any misunderstanding on this subject, nor did he wish to prejudice the cause in the legislature.

After Dr. Jenks concluded, a question arose whether the subject assigned for the evening should be now discussed. Wm. Parker Esq., of Sudbury, proposed to discuss it. He said he had come 20 miles for the purpose of hearing what was to be said and he did not think it proper to take up any other subject. The President too thought we ought to proceed to the regular business of the evening. But others moved that this evening be spent in discussing the merits of the reports of the meetings—and they prevailed. The consequence was there was nothing but wrangling in the Hall from eight to nine.

As soon as it was decided by a very few voices to talk still further about the report of those meetings a good number of gentlemen rose and left the Hall—there were now left about 40 or 50 people.

The truth is that a few of the members have determined to make a difficulty at these meetings ever since a division in sentiment on the question of farm Colleges and Schools. A number of speakers in the early meetings took very high ground in regard to the aid they wanted from the State. Eu-

nipon College were talked of—one member wanted \$150,000 to begin with—another talked of the Agricultural Colleges in Europe—and a third called our attention to Ireland, where it was said that eleven Agricultural Colleges are now in existence; and a fourth told how much might be learned from European professors.

Such high notions as these called up a strong opposition, who propounded that the whole plan would sink in a short time from its weight, and that the legislature would not give any aid to establishments on such a scale. And when the subject passed from the Senate to the House a radical modification was moved and carried by Mr. Payson of Rowley.

In the mean time the subject had been much discussed in other places, and the members who had advocated the high tone perceived that the ground they took at those meetings was quite unpopular—it was no go. Hence it is that some of them are continually complaining of the reports of these meetings. They now want to take back what they said a number of weeks ago, and night after night they take occasion to stand at the reports. No master how trivial the error, it answers well to bring up the whole subject again and again.

Mr. French, Esq., of Boston, was satisfied with the report of the meeting, and he had invited Dr. Jackson, the chemist, to confirm what he had said at the previous meeting. He said he did this because the Ploughman had reported that "he was reduced to the necessity of telling what his own witness would say if he was present."

Dr. Jackson rose, and said he gave a chemical lecture here two or three years ago, but it was not correctly reported in the Ploughman: he had his apparatus in the Hall. Dr. Jackson was asked whether he notified the editor, or made any attempt to have the report corrected. He said he did not. Dr. J. did not intimate that he was without any desire to report him incorrectly.

Soon after Dr. Jackson retired, Mr. French boasted that he had now proved, by a witness, that his former statement was true.

Mr. Buckminster said he had not proved it. Mr. French had said should prove by Dr. J. that the report of the Ploughman had driven him (Dr. J.) from this Hall, but Dr. J. says no such thing. Dr. J. says no more than any gentleman may say without giving offence.

Mr. Barry of Hanover now rose, and said, that in one of the early meetings, two months ago, he had been charged in the Ploughman with making a false report—yes, he had been accused of reporting falsely to their meeting.

Mr. Buckminster asked him if he had the Ploughman report with him. He said he had not. Now, said Mr. B., you are a man of education, and ought to know better than to make such a statement here, when the printed report in the Ploughman of January last will show your error. I have not the paper here, but you will find nothing of the kind there—nothing is imputed to you. If you find a word charging you with reporting falsely, I will agree to humble myself before you, and go through with the ceremony that is so gratifying to the Pope of Rome.

[Since the meeting we have examined the Ploughman of January 19—the report referred to by Mr. Barry,—and we find not a word there to support the charge made by Mr. Barry. Any one can examine for himself: there it stands.]

*The Journal* was again appealed to in order to correct the Ploughman report. Mr. Buckminster at once showed that the Journal report of the very last meeting was wrong. Mr. French was then reported as occupying a few moments to correct the Ploughman by the Journal, when all of us knew he was nearly half an hour upon it.

Subject for next Thursday evening, "Draining."

### WEBSTER'S TRIAL.

We have copied pretty largely from the daily papers the evidence on behalf of the State. Mr. Webster's counsel called a large number of witnesses to prove that his general character was good. They also examined a number of witnesses who testified that they saw Parkman in the streets between the hours of two and five on the same Friday afternoon of the supposed murder, the 23d of November. We understand that all the evidence has been given in—it closed on Thursday night.

We learn that Dr. Morton testified he saw nothing peculiar in the formation of the jaws of Parkman.

Nathaniel Waterman's examination resumed. It was followed with some evidence from Dr. Webster's side. I did him justice in saying that he came up to a large box made, the sides more up than the upper edge turned in. He said how it should be made for a small one, to hold books, &c. He wanted a handle put on the cover; and wanted it made so as to solder it up himself, remarking, You know I can do such things, Mr. Waterman. Did not he say when he wanted it done, I have before made articles for Prof. Webster, but nothing of this description. [An account was here produced, running back to 1843, containing the charge made by witness, against Prof. Webster.] He wanted the handle made very strong. The box was completed on Saturday morning after the arrest, but was never called for by Prof. Webster.

Cross Ex.—My store is near the Cambridge omnibus station. The box was made in the style mentioned to hold small things. I opened the door to see what he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Littlefield, the janitor, and that he opposed his coming to the College all he could. I think now he was right. On getting back to the jail the night before, his clothes were quite damp with sweat.

I have in my possession a letter in Dr. Webster's handwriting. The rule of the jail is that he was left for the night, in the course of the forenoon, he was able to sit in a chair. He volunteered to tell me those remains were no more Dr. Parkman's body than his own: but how in the world they came there, he didn't know. He then said he never liked the looks of Little

## CONGRESSIONAL.

MARCH 25.—  
IN THE SENATE. Mr. Seward presented a number of petitions—one against slavery, one in favor of Free Soil (1), one in favor of granting the demand had been made, and the other in favor of the same. The Senate adjourned.

Mr. Webster rose, in order to explain extracts from his speech. He said it was going the rounds of the newspapers, first in 1848 he was opposed to slavery universally, &c. He now wished to say very emphatically, that there was no inconsistency between that and anything he now said.

Mr. Hale explained, and partially disavowed any intention on his part of charging Mr. Webster with inconsistency.

Mr. Webster rejoined, and said that he had not been accessory to the acquisition of any slave territory, and his votes showed that he had uniformly opposed it. If the gentleman, and a few others, who were disposed to find fault, had stood by him in opposing the treaty of '48, slaves would have been kept on all of the territories, and all our present difficulties would have been avoided. Some further remarks were made.

Mr. Douglass, from the Committee on Territories, reported two bills—the first for the admission of the State of California, and the second against the territorial governments for Estuaries, Deserts, and New Mexico; also, an amendment to the territorial bill making provision for the adjustment of the Texas boundary. Mr. Douglass gave the views of the Committee on the subject, and the bills were then read by Mr. Foote, who asked that the consideration of the territorial bill be taken up first.

Mr. Mason spoke for two hours, opposing the slave territory, and pledged himself to use any measure for the settlement of the same, which would not compromise his state. The Senate soon after went into executive session.

On the other hand, the bill to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the present fiscal year was taken up, and the question on the amendments reported from the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

The amendments moving an outift of \$9,000 for the Minister to Prussia, and \$4,500 for the Minister to Austria, were concurred in—year 114, 72.

An amendment appropriating two hundred thousand dollars for the removal and subsistence of Seminole Indians from Florida was concurred in, year 106, May 75. Other amendments were concurred in, and the bill passed.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and resumed the consideration of the California question.

Mr. Thaddeus said he would first request those from Oregon to leave. He then arose not as a party man, though he belonged to a party, but as a sectional man, though he belonged to a section. Oregon was deeply interested in the question before the Committee. He had been grieved to hear California slandered and bespoken all over with calumny, because she had dared to use the first law of nature to protect herself, and form a Constitution, and ask for admission. His opinion was that California should be admitted into the Union unconditionally, and the adjournment soon followed.

House. Mr. Washington in the chair. Mr. Thompson offered a resolution, calling upon the President to furnish a voucher for copies of the correspondence from the Consul at Vienna, together with the authority under which he has acted in that capacity.

Mr. Thompson of Pennsylvania, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to re-enact certain acts for the relief of insolvent debtors, which was referred.

Mr. Miller, from the same Committee, submitted a resolution calling on the President for all information respecting the present status of the claims of Puget's Sound Agricultural Company in Oregon, and the acts of incorporation of the company; also, the character, number, and extent of possessed right of the Hudson Bay Company, and British subjects south of the 49th degree, including the members and servants of said company; and places and settlements on said parallel, and that the President communicate whether any and what propositions have been made by the Hudson Bay Company to the last administration, to sell or transfer the possessed right of said company south of the 49th degree.

He then read all papers connected with such a resolution, from the papers acting for and against it, and moved to adjourn.

Mr. Foote moved to take up the Territorial bill reported yesterday, and make it the order of the day for Friday.

Mr. Benton said the friends of California now meant to set one for him—he would press the California bill first, and should struggle for him from time to time.

Mr. Foote replied characteristically. He had no objection to the California bill, but was divided by personal and selfish considerations. He should oppose California until the territorial question was settled.

Mr. Benton was much excited, and replied.—He pronounced Mr. Foote's attack upon his motives false and cowardly.

Mr. Benton asked, "Is a Senator to be blackguarded here?"

Mr. Foote replied, "Yes, if he was to be black-guarded."

The Chair interceded, and order being restored, the subject was postponed.

The Census Bill was also postponed.

Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions were taken up, and Mr. Chase spoke two hours on the subject of slavery, when the Senate adjourned.

On Tuesday, March 26.—  
IN THE SENATE, Mr. Cleburne presented a petition asking that the benefits of slavery may be extended to all the States in the Union.

A resolution calling for the reasons of the removal of Mr. Nelson, of Indiana, received, was debated at some length, and its further consideration postponed until Tuesday next.

Mr. Clay's resolution in favor of dispensing with formal ceremonies, when Senators during the vacation of Congress, was taken up. Mr. Dickinson opposed it, and was passed over.

Mr. Foote moved to take up the Territorial bill reported yesterday, and make it the order of the day for Friday.

Mr. Benton said the friends of California now meant to set one for him—he would press the California bill first, and should struggle for him from time to time.

Mr. Foote replied characteristically. He had no objection to the California bill, but was divided by personal and selfish considerations. He should oppose California until the territorial question was settled.

Mr. Benton was much excited, and replied.—He pronounced Mr. Foote's attack upon his motives false and cowardly.

Mr. Benton asked, "Is a Senator to be black-guarded here?"

Mr. Foote replied, "Yes, if he was to be black-guarded."

The Chair interceded, and order being restored, the subject was postponed.

The Census Bill was also postponed.

Mr. Cobb explained his course in regard to the change of word in the proceedings, from bill to message, before the House on the 13th.

Mr. Holmes withdrew his motion for a committee of investigation.

Mr. Bart offered a resolution excusing Mr. Cobb, and censuring Mr. King.

Mr. Schenck proposed an amendment, omitting the censure.

Mr. Richardson obtained the floor, and the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, March 27.—  
IN THE SENATE. The first part of the proceedings in the Senate to-day has failed to reach.

Mr. Hale quoted Mr. Buchanan, in proof of his former statement, that the Northern Democratic party of the South.

Mr. King, replying, concurred in a great extent in Mr. Buchanan's opinion.

Mr. Benton, by his own request, was excused from serving on the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Benton rose, and the House adjourned.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday. He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The Senate then went into Executive Session, and adjourned.

The subject was passed over.

The consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions was resumed.

Mr. Chase having the floor, concluded his speech, having commenced the same yesterday.

He spoke about two hours.

Mr. Foote, who had supported Mr. Bell's resolutions to a committee, was made the order of the day for tomorrow, when Mr. Baldwin has the floor. The

## THE POET'S CORNER.

[For the Ploughman.]

### THE OLD PUD-AUGER DAYS.

BY JOSIAH D. CANNING, THE "PEASANT Bard."

I now an aged man at work—  
He turned an anger round;  
And ever and now he'd p'pose,  
A good morning, friend, quoth I to him—  
Good thinking when to raise?  
No, not; said I, in thinking on  
The old "pud-auger days."

Try, by the hardest then we wrought,  
With little extra d's;—  
But ho'ner's were the things we bought,  
And ho'ner's were the things we made.  
By far invention stalks abroad,  
Invention dogs her ways;  
Things different from what they were  
In old "pud-auger days."

Then honest was the fare we had,  
And honest was what we wore;  
Then scarce a niggard paid a cent,  
Inside his coat, nothing more.  
Then hamb'gs did so thick  
As half the world to have;  
That sort of hog was scarcely known  
In old "pud-auger days."

Then men were strong, and woman fair  
Was heavy as the dove;  
Then few so drowsy "feebles" were,  
They could'nt knitt and sew;  
Then girls cou'd sing, and they could work,  
And grandm'mere lay;

Then sort of music took the pain  
In old "pud-auger days."

Then men were patriots—rare, indeed,  
An' bold or a burr;

They loved their country, and in turn  
Were loved and blessed by her.

Then Franklin, Sherman, Rittenhouse  
Earned well their nation's praise;  
We've not the Congress that we had  
In old "pud-auger days."

Then, slow and certain was the word;  
No w. do'ld the loudmost take;

Then, buyers rattled down the t'm;

Now, where must money make;

Then, murder'd young villains soun  
Were decked in bony bays;

We didn't murder in our sleep,

In old "pud-auger days."

Then wags the world—'tis well enough,  
It was wisdom by steam;

But in my day she used to give

A plain, old-fashioned team;

And Justice with her bandage off

Can new see choice in was;

She used to sit blind-fold and stern

In old "pud-auger days."

Gill, Mass.

### LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

THE APRIL FOOL.

BY KATE SUTHERLAND.

Nothing is so much enjoyed, by some men, as practical jokes, and the April Fool is the day on which the greater their delight. Of this class was Mr. Thomas Bunting, who resided in a village a few miles out of New York. Bunting kept a store for the sale of almost every article known in domestic and agricultural life, from a number ten needle up to a bag of coffee. Consequently he was pretty well acquainted with all the towns' people, who were, likewise, pretty well acquainted with him.

As Bunting was constantly playing off his practical jokes, and another, he only kept himself free from enemies by his good temper and ability to soothe the parties he sometimes irritated beyond the point of endurance.

The First of April was never permitted to come and go without being well improved by the joke-loving Thomas. If a customer sent for a pint of brandy on that day, he would be very apt to get four gills of vinegar; or, if for a pound of sugar, half a pound of New Orleans pepper; or an equal quantity of saleratus. That was a smart child who could come into his store on some trick. So, from morning till night of the First day of April, the face of Thomas Bunting was one broad grin. Full of fun as to the ways and means of playing off tricks upon others, our merry friend was exceedingly wide awake to any efforts at retaliation; and it generally happened that most of those who sought to catch him, got the laugh turned upon themselves.

Two years ago, the First of April was celebrated, Bunting began to think of a project awaiting him, and he lay over the hour to see who it would be the most fitting subject for a good jest.

"I must make a fool of somebody," said he to himself, "a first-rate fool. I'm tired of mere child's play in this business. Who shall it be? There's Doctor Grimes. Suppose I send him to see the young Widow Gray? He'd like to make her a visit exceedingly, I know. But the widow knows me of old, and will be sure to suspect my agency. I guess that she'll do it. Grimes is a good subject; and I've got a lot of reasons for it."

"I can't be positive!" exclaimed the doctor, clasping his hands together, while his face became pale and overcast with disappointment.

"Who could have been so unkind—so cruel?"

"And is the widow 'very, very great?' said the querulous mother of the visitor, his countenance showing more gain than mortification at the cheat practised upon him.

"I wonder if I couldn't better call on Wilde & Lyon?" said he to himself at length. "Perhaps the letter was no trick, after all."

Bunting held a long argument, mentally, on the subject, in which all the pros and cons were fully discussed. Finally, he decided to call at the place referred to in his letter, and did so forthwith, reaching the decision. Still, fearing that the letter had not been a hoax, he made some purchases of articles for his store, and then wrote his name.

"Thomas Bunting" said the person with whom he was dealing. "Do you reside in the city?"

Bunting mentioned his place of residence.

"Did you receive a letter from this house, directing me to see you?"

"I did," replied Bunting, "but it was dated on the first of April. I took it for the jest of some merry friend."

"Very far from it, I can assure you," answered the man. "An old gentleman arrived here from England about this time, who said that a brother and sister had come to this country many years ago, and that he was in search of them or their children. His name was Bunting. At his request, we made several advertisements for his store, and then wrote his name."

"I am a stranger here."

"Can you bring testimonials to a professional ability?" asked Mr. L.

"I can. Testimonials of the very highest character."

"Bring them to me, doctor, at the earliest possible moment. I do not, in the least, doubt that my influence will secure you the place. I believe we have no family!"

"None."

"That may be an objection. A furnished dwelling is provided for the physician; and, I believe, one with a family is preferred."

"I have a widowed sister, who would be glad to join me; and whom I would be glad to place in a comfortable position."

"Will that do just as well, doctor. Bring over your testimonials as soon as possible. Not much of an April fool, after all, I begin to think. Unless I'm very greatly mistaken, you have heard something to your advantage."

"All came out to my satisfaction of both Doctor Grimes and the kindred. My sister is a widow, and has been a widow for three years. She is a widow of me, and will be sure to suspect my agency. I guess that she'll do it. Grimes is a good subject; and I've got a lot of reasons for it."

"I must make a fool of somebody," said he to himself, "a first-rate fool. I'm tired of mere child's play in this business. Who shall it be? There's Doctor Grimes. Suppose I send him to see the young Widow Gray? He'd like to make her a visit exceedingly, I know. But the widow knows me of old, and will be sure to suspect my agency. I guess that she'll do it. Grimes is a good subject; and I've got a lot of reasons for it."

"I can't be positive!" exclaimed the doctor, clasping his hands together, while his face became pale and overcast with disappointment.

"Who could have been so unkind—so cruel?"

"And is the widow 'very, very great?' said the querulous mother of the visitor, his countenance showing more gain than mortification at the cheat practised upon him.

"I wonder if I couldn't better call on Wilde & Lyon?" said he to himself at length. "Perhaps the letter was no trick, after all."

So, then the letter-carrier of the village came in and handed two letters. The first one opened was from a dearly loved, widowed sister, who wrote to know if he could possibly help her in her trouble.

"I would not like to say that, in selecting Doctor Grimes as the subject of his best joke, for instance, the greater their delight. Of this class was Mr. Thomas Bunting, who resided in a village a few miles out of New York. Bunting kept a store for the sale of almost every article known in domestic and agricultural life, from a number ten needle up to a bag of coffee. Consequently he was pretty well acquainted with all the towns' people, who were, likewise, pretty well acquainted with him.

As Bunting was constantly playing off his practical jokes, and another, he only kept himself free from enemies by his good temper and ability to soothe the parties he sometimes irritated beyond the point of endurance.

The First of April was never permitted to come and go without being well improved by the joke-loving Thomas. If a customer sent for a pint of brandy on that day, he would be very apt to get four gills of vinegar; or, if for a pound of sugar, half a pound of New Orleans pepper; or an equal quantity of saleratus. That was a smart child who could come into his store on some trick. So, from morning till night of the First day of April, the face of Thomas Bunting was one broad grin. Full of fun as to the ways and means of playing off tricks upon others, our merry friend was exceedingly wide awake to any efforts at retaliation; and it generally happened that most of those who sought to catch him, got the laugh turned upon themselves.

Two years ago, the First of April was celebrated, Bunting began to think of a project awaiting him, and he lay over the hour to see who it would be the most fitting subject for a good jest.

"I must make a fool of somebody," said he to himself, "a first-rate fool. I'm tired of mere child's play in this business. Who shall it be? There's Doctor Grimes. Suppose I send him to see the young Widow Gray? He'd like to make her a visit exceedingly, I know. But the widow knows me of old, and will be sure to suspect my agency. I guess that she'll do it. Grimes is a good subject; and I've got a lot of reasons for it."

"I can't be positive!" exclaimed the doctor, clasping his hands together, while his face became pale and overcast with disappointment.

"Who could have been so unkind—so cruel?"

"And is the widow 'very, very great?' said the querulous mother of the visitor, his countenance showing more gain than mortification at the cheat practised upon him.

"I wonder if I couldn't better call on Wilde & Lyon?" said he to himself at length. "Perhaps the letter was no trick, after all."

So, then the letter-carrier of the village came in and handed two letters. The first one opened was from a dearly loved, widowed sister, who wrote to know if he could possibly help her in her trouble.

"I would not like to say that, in selecting Doctor Grimes as the subject of his best joke, for instance, the greater their delight. Of this class was Mr. Thomas Bunting, who resided in a village a few miles out of New York. Bunting kept a store for the sale of almost every article known in domestic and agricultural life, from a number ten needle up to a bag of coffee. Consequently he was pretty well acquainted with all the towns' people, who were, likewise, pretty well acquainted with him.

As Bunting was constantly playing off his practical jokes, and another, he only kept himself free from enemies by his good temper and ability to soothe the parties he sometimes irritated beyond the point of endurance.

The First of April was never permitted to come and go without being well improved by the joke-loving Thomas. If a customer sent for a pint of brandy on that day, he would be very apt to get four gills of vinegar; or, if for a pound of sugar, half a pound of New Orleans pepper; or an equal quantity of saleratus. That was a smart child who could come into his store on some trick. So, from morning till night of the First day of April, the face of Thomas Bunting was one broad grin. Full of fun as to the ways and means of playing off tricks upon others, our merry friend was exceedingly wide awake to any efforts at retaliation; and it generally happened that most of those who sought to catch him, got the laugh turned upon themselves.

Two years ago, the First of April was celebrated, Bunting began to think of a project awaiting him, and he lay over the hour to see who it would be the most fitting subject for a good jest.

"I must make a fool of somebody," said he to himself, "a first-rate fool. I'm tired of mere child's play in this business. Who shall it be? There's Doctor Grimes. Suppose I send him to see the young Widow Gray? He'd like to make her a visit exceedingly, I know. But the widow knows me of old, and will be sure to suspect my agency. I guess that she'll do it. Grimes is a good subject; and I've got a lot of reasons for it."

"I can't be positive!" exclaimed the doctor, clasping his hands together, while his face became pale and overcast with disappointment.

"Who could have been so unkind—so cruel?"

"And is the widow 'very, very great?' said the querulous mother of the visitor, his countenance showing more gain than mortification at the cheat practised upon him.

"I wonder if I couldn't better call on Wilde & Lyon?" said he to himself at length. "Perhaps the letter was no trick, after all."

So, then the letter-carrier of the village came in and handed two letters. The first one opened was from a dearly loved, widowed sister, who wrote to know if he could possibly help her in her trouble.

"I would not like to say that, in selecting Doctor Grimes as the subject of his best joke, for instance, the greater their delight. Of this class was Mr. Thomas Bunting, who resided in a village a few miles out of New York. Bunting kept a store for the sale of almost every article known in domestic and agricultural life, from a number ten needle up to a bag of coffee. Consequently he was pretty well acquainted with all the towns' people, who were, likewise, pretty well acquainted with him.

As Bunting was constantly playing off his practical jokes, and another, he only kept himself free from enemies by his good temper and ability to soothe the parties he sometimes irritated beyond the point of endurance.

The First of April was never permitted to come and go without being well improved by the joke-loving Thomas. If a customer sent for a pint of brandy on that day, he would be very apt to get four gills of vinegar; or, if for a pound of sugar, half a pound of New Orleans pepper; or an equal quantity of saleratus. That was a smart child who could come into his store on some trick. So, from morning till night of the First day of April, the face of Thomas Bunting was one broad grin. Full of fun as to the ways and means of playing off tricks upon others, our merry friend was exceedingly wide awake to any efforts at retaliation; and it generally happened that most of those who sought to catch him, got the laugh turned upon themselves.

Two years ago, the First of April was celebrated, Bunting began to think of a project awaiting him, and he lay over the hour to see who it would be the most fitting subject for a good jest.

"I must make a fool of somebody," said he to himself, "a first-rate fool. I'm tired of mere child's play in this business. Who shall it be? There's Doctor Grimes. Suppose I send him to see the young Widow Gray? He'd like to make her a visit exceedingly, I know. But the widow knows me of old, and will be sure to suspect my agency. I guess that she'll do it. Grimes is a good subject; and I've got a lot of reasons for it."

"I can't be positive!" exclaimed the doctor, clasping his hands together, while his face became pale and overcast with disappointment.

"Who could have been so unkind—so cruel?"

"And is the widow 'very, very great?' said the querulous mother of the visitor, his countenance showing more gain than mortification at the cheat practised upon him.

"I wonder if I couldn't better call on Wilde & Lyon?" said he to himself at length. "Perhaps the letter was no trick, after all."

So, then the letter-carrier of the village came in and handed two letters. The first one opened was from a dearly loved, widowed sister, who wrote to know if he could possibly help her in her trouble.

"I would not like to say that, in selecting Doctor Grimes as the subject of his best joke, for instance, the greater their delight. Of this class was Mr. Thomas Bunting, who resided in a village a few miles out of New York. Bunting kept a store for the sale of almost every article known in domestic and agricultural life, from a number ten needle up to a bag of coffee. Consequently he was pretty well acquainted with all the towns' people, who were, likewise, pretty well acquainted with him.

As Bunting was constantly playing off his practical jokes, and another, he only kept himself free from enemies by his good temper and ability to soothe the parties he sometimes irritated beyond the point of endurance.

The First of April was never permitted to come and go without being well improved by the joke-loving Thomas. If a customer sent for a pint of brandy on that day, he would be very apt to get four gills of vinegar; or, if for a pound of sugar, half a pound of New Orleans pepper; or an equal quantity of saleratus. That was a smart child who could come into his store on some trick. So, from morning till night of the First day of April, the face of Thomas Bunting was one broad grin. Full of fun as to the ways and means of playing off tricks upon others, our merry friend was exceedingly wide awake to any efforts at retaliation; and it generally happened that most of those who sought to catch him, got the laugh turned upon themselves.

Two years ago, the First of April was celebrated, Bunting began to think of a project awaiting him, and he lay over the hour to see who it would be the most fitting subject for a good jest.

"I must make a fool of somebody," said he to himself, "a first-rate fool. I'm tired of mere child's play in this business. Who shall it be? There's Doctor Grimes. Suppose I send him to see the young Widow Gray? He'd like to make her a visit exceedingly, I know. But the widow knows me of old, and will be sure to suspect my agency. I guess that she'll do it. Grimes is a good subject; and I've got a lot of reasons for it."

"I can't be positive!" exclaimed the doctor, clasping his hands together, while his face became pale and overcast with disappointment.

"Who could have been so unkind—so cruel?"

"And is the widow 'very, very great?' said the querulous mother of the visitor, his countenance showing more gain than mortification at the cheat practised upon him.

"I wonder if I couldn't better call on Wilde & Lyon?" said he to himself at length. "Perhaps the letter was no trick, after all."

So, then the letter-carrier of the village came in and handed two letters. The first one opened was from a dearly loved, widowed sister, who wrote to know if he could possibly help her in her trouble.

"I would not like to say that, in selecting Doctor Grimes as the subject of his best joke, for instance, the greater their delight. Of this class was Mr. Thomas Bunting, who resided in a village a few miles out of New York. Bunting kept a store for the sale of almost every article known in domestic and agricultural life, from a number ten needle up to a bag of coffee. Consequently he was pretty well acquainted with all the towns' people, who were, likewise, pretty well acquainted with him.

As Bunting was constantly playing off his practical jokes,